

VICE-PRESIDENCY. CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM H. ENGLISH OF INDIANA, COMPLETES THE DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

Hon. William H. English, of Indiana, who has received the unanimous nomination of the democratic convention for the vice-presidency, was born at Lexington, in Scott county, in the southern part of Indiana, on August 27, 1822.

Mr. English's education was such as could be acquired at the common schools of the neighborhood, and a course of three years study at the South Hanover College. He studied law, and was admitted to practice in the circuit court at the early age of eighteen years.

Several years before he was of age, he was chosen a delegate from Scott county to the democratic state convention at Indianapolis which nominated General Tilden as a Howard for governor.

Under the Tyler administration, Mr. English was appointed postmaster of Lexington, his native village, then the county seat of Scott county.

In 1843 he was chosen principal clerk of the house of Representatives of his state over several distinguished and worthy competitors. It was at this session that the Hon. Jesse D. Bright, then the lieutenant governor and President of the Senate, by casting his vote postponed the regular election of the United States Senator until the next session, which resulted in his own election.

James D. Williams, now governor of Indiana, was then, for the first time, a member of the house, and he had several times public mention of the fact that Mr. English then performed the same duties, and most satisfactory too, with the aid of one assistant, that in these later years half a dozen are paid to perform.

In the Presidential campaign of 1848, Mr. English took an active part in procuring the cause of Mr. Polk, and during the whole of the latter's administration he was an officer in the treasury department at Washington, and a clerk in the United States Senate during the memorable session of 1850 when the compromise measures were adopted. He was principal secretary of the convention that framed the present constitution of Indiana, a member of the house of Representatives from Scott county in 1851, and was elected its Speaker at that session.

With the close of the long session of the legislature of 1851, in which Mr. English had earned glowing opinions from men of all parties, he was justly regarded as one of the foremost men of the state, and the democrats of his district with great unanimity solicited him to become their standard bearer in the race for Congress. He was nominated, and in October, 1852, was elected by 488 majority over John D. Ferguson, now deceased, and with whom he was always on equal terms of the warmest personal friendship.

opposed to the republican doctrines and should boldly assert Mr. Lincoln's policy whenever he thought it wrong, but as a native of Indiana, thoroughly identified with free state interests, he felt that his allegiance was exclusively due to the state of Indiana and government of the United States, and he should accordingly abide in good faith by their laws, and stand under the old time honored flag.

Removing to the city of Indianapolis, Mr. English immediately identified himself with important business movements. Chief among these was the organization of the First National bank which was the earliest institution under the new national banking system in Indiana. He was placed at the head of the bank as president, a position he continued to hold until 1877.

Mr. English is above the average height with an erect, well made figure. His head is of good size, with regular features. His forehead is high and broad, and the eyes are small and deep set. He is dignified and gentlemanly in his manners, and has a pleasing address.

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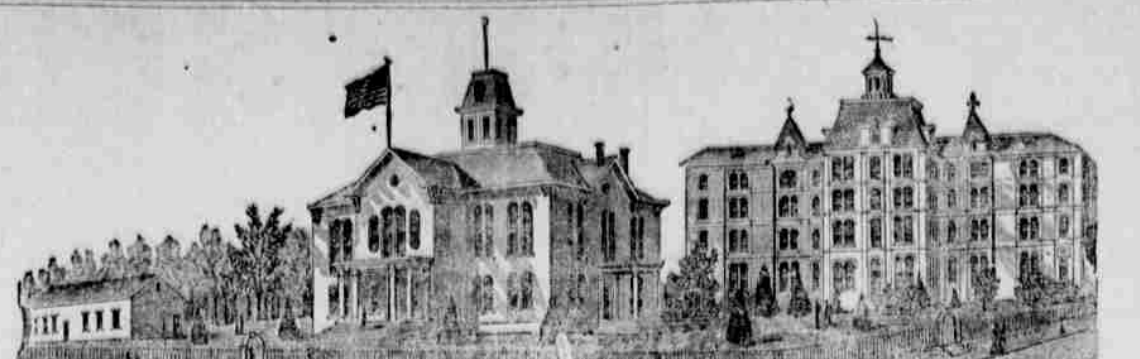
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